SANTA MARTA MAGAZINE

THE OLD & NEW ENGLAND TOUR 2026

DESTINATION	STATUS	DATE
NEW YORK	COMPLETED	NOV 5—7
PROVIDENCE	COMPLETED	NOV 7—9
BOSTON	COMPLETED	NOV 9—15
LONDON	COMPLETED	NOV 15—19
EL SALVADOR	HOME	NOV 20

JOIN THE JOURNEY TO SUPPORT OUR MONTHLY GOAL OF $5K!

santamarta.lgbt



Letter from the Director

A Journey Made Possible by Our Community

Dear friends of Santa Marta,

I returned to El Salvador grateful for the people who made this journey possible. Traveling through New York, Providence, Boston and London gave me time to share Santa Marta's work, listen to others and consider what our organization needs next.

I want to thank the donors and friends whose generosity made the travel possible. I am especially grateful to Tommy Dillon, Rick and Don for their support. I also want to thank everyone who welcomed me, helped organize gatherings, made introductions and took time to listen.

I was particularly struck by the willingness of people to make room for Santa Marta in their schedules and communities. That generosity matters to me because I know what is waiting for us at home: people seeking safety, psychological support and a chance to rebuild their lives.

In these pages, I want to share the places we visited and the conversations that deserve follow-up. I also hope you will join us as we work toward more reliable support for Santa Marta.

Thank you for making this journey possible, and for everything you do to keep Santa Marta's doors open.

With gratitude,

Eduardo Madrid
Founder and Director, Centro Santa Marta

NEW YORK

OutSummit 2026

Outright International



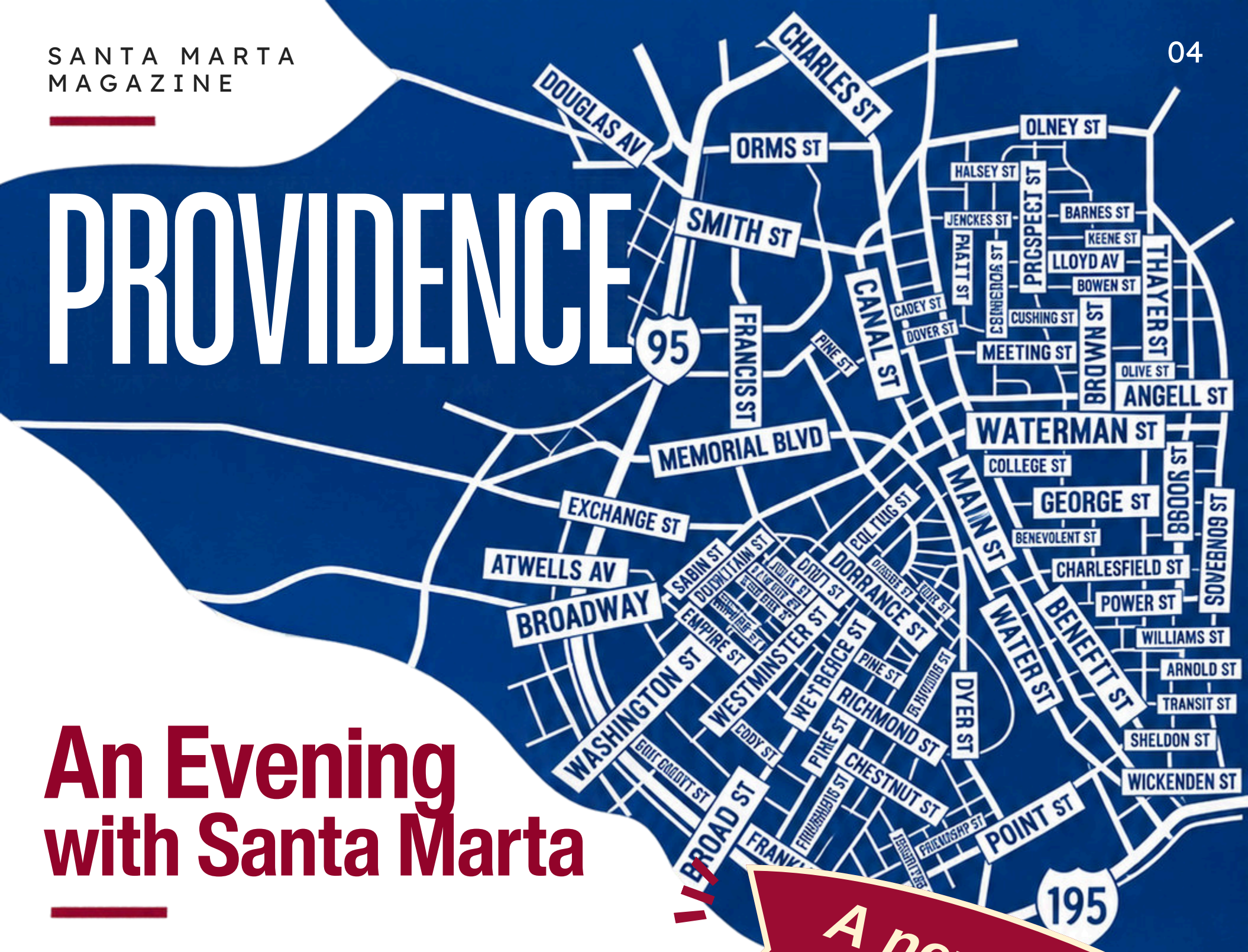


Reconnecting and Building Relationships

As many of our friends know, El Salvador is going through particularly challenging times under an increasingly authoritarian government. With so many crises unfolding around the world, it is easy for the situation in El Salvador to fall off the radar of international decision-makers.

This is why, as part of our visit to New York, Santa Marta participated in OutSummit 2026, organized by Outright International under the theme The Future We Claim. The conference brought together LGBTIQ activists, human rights defenders and civil society organizations from around the world.

For Santa Marta, participating in these spaces is part of our commitment to keeping the situation of LGBTQ+ people in El Salvador visible on the international agenda, sharing our experiences, learning from other movements and strengthening relationships that can support our work back home.



An Evening with Santa Marta

A new way to help

On November 7, David Fuller welcomed friends and supporters into his home in Providence, Rhode Island, for An Evening with Santa Marta. We shared the work we do in El Salvador, providing shelter, psychological care and practical support to LGBTQ+ people experiencing violence and displacement.

During the evening, several guests expressed that they were unaware of the current situation in El Salvador and the challenges facing our LGBTQ+ community. Having the opportunity to tell our story, answer questions and explain how people can help is one of the most important aspects of these gatherings.

Our gatherings are designed to be intimate and informal. Friends of Santa Marta invite people from their own communities to spend an evening together, learn about our work and engage in an open conversation about human rights, protection and the realities of life in El Salvador. They also provide an opportunity to raise funds and connect with people who may wish to support our work in the long term.

We are particularly grateful to David for opening his home, bringing people together and introducing Santa Marta to new friends in Providence. Through gatherings like this, we hope to continue expanding the community of people who know about our work and want to be part of it.

BOSTON

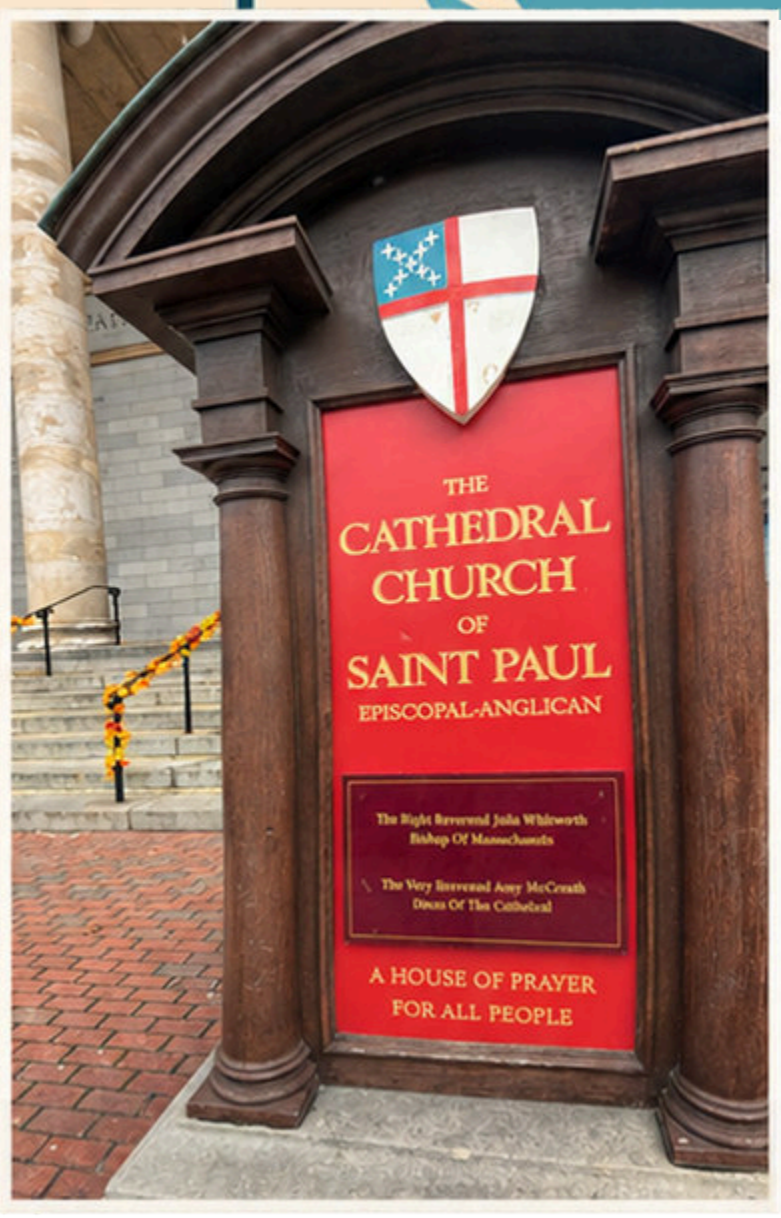
MASSACHUSETTS

Building Partnerships

Our visit to Boston was an opportunity to explore new institutional relationships, reconnect with friends and learn more about the philanthropic community in Massachusetts.

Ahead of Veterans Day, I met virtually with Scott Knox of The Boston Foundation. Our conversation focused on Boston's philanthropic landscape and how Santa Marta could begin establishing relationships with foundations, donors and organizations interested in supporting our work. Understanding how these networks operate is an important step as we work toward greater financial sustainability.

We also hope to strengthen our relationships with the Episcopal community in Massachusetts. Unfortunately, a scheduling misunderstanding prevented our planned meeting with Marissa Rohrbach of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. We look forward to reconnecting with her ahead of our next visit to Boston.



Learning from Each Other



One of the highlights of our time in Boston was meeting Esther Ávalos and Jasmin Rotem Planas of The Network/La Red, an organization working to end partner abuse in LGBTQ+ communities.

During our conversation, we discovered how much our organizations have in common, particularly in our approaches to supporting survivors of violence and creating safer spaces for LGBTQ+ people.

Their team generously shared a range of educational and practical resources that we can draw upon in our work in El Salvador. We are now exploring ways our organizations could collaborate, exchange knowledge and learn from each other's experiences.



A special thank you to Jeannie Gould

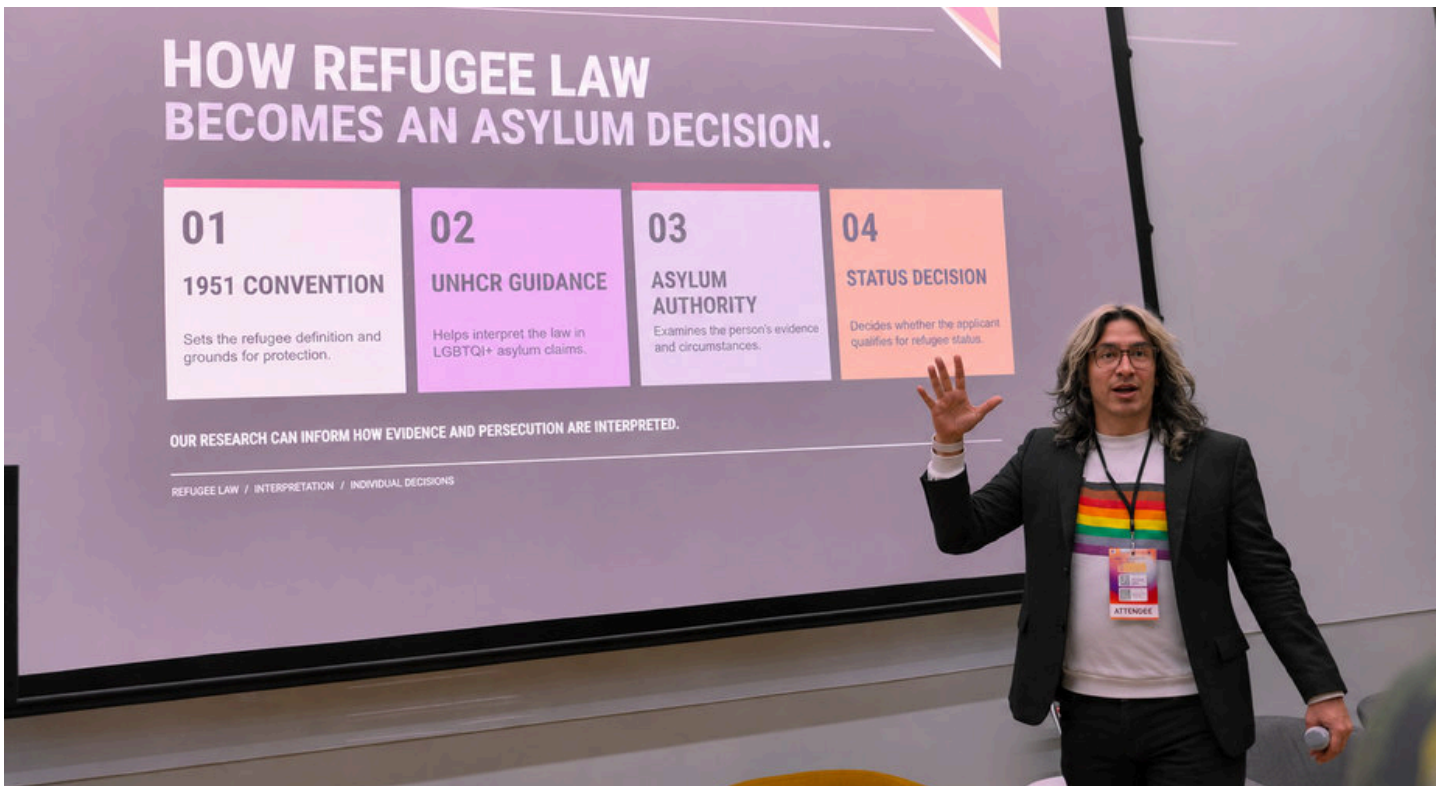
I also want to give a very special thank you to Jeannie Gould, who welcomed me into her home during my stay in Boston, helped me get to my meetings on time and made me feel at home throughout the visit.

Her generosity and practical support made this part of the journey possible. Santa Marta is fortunate to have friends like Jeannie.

How Come Every Time You Come Around, My London London Bridge Wanna Support Queer Youth Around the World? Wanna Support Like...

Yes, we know that's Tower Bridge. Take it up with Fergie.

The Limits of Protection



Earlier this year, UNHCR issued a call for contributions to its new *Handbook on Refugee Law*. In collaboration with the Ali Forney Center and its international network, Santa Marta designed and led a consultation involving organizations across eight countries.

At Santa Marta, providing shelter is one part of a broader commitment to human rights. Our daily work gives us firsthand knowledge of the systemic failures that lead to violence, homelessness and forced displacement.

We are now preparing a public edition of *The Limits of Protection* to make this research accessible to a wider audience.

King’s Cross St Pancras — Euston — Warren Street

QUEER YOUTH

Later that day, I participated in a panel discussion accompanying the premiere of Can You See Me Now?, the Ali Forney Center's global campaign addressing LGBTQ+ youth homelessness and visibility.

Can You See Me Now?



Drawing on our experiences in El Salvador, I spoke about the systems of oppression that contribute to homelessness among LGBTQ+ young people. Family rejection, discrimination, economic exclusion and institutional violence can accumulate throughout a young person's life, limiting their opportunities to access housing, education, employment and safety.

Ending LGBTQ+ youth homelessness requires us to address the conditions that produce it, while ensuring that young people have a meaningful role in shaping the programs and policies that affect their lives. For Santa Marta, supporting queer youth is a commitment to their liberation and self-determination.



What We Bring Back

The journey ended where Santa Marta's daily work continues: El Salvador.

At home, Santa Marta's daily responsibilities continue: shelter, psychological care and practical accompaniment for LGBTQ+ people experiencing violence and displacement.

The trip will be worthwhile to the extent that its conversations help us strengthen this work.

We now need to follow up on introductions, determine which collaborations are realistic and translate promising ideas into clear next steps. Our first step is reporting back to our donors who made this trip possible and to all of you who supported us along the way.

Getting Ready for Giving Tuesday & Christmas

Giving Tuesday is just around the corner, on December 1, followed by our Christmas fundraising campaign. These next few weeks are crucial for Santa Marta's financial sustainability, and we need your help.

We need to reach more people who can help sustain our shelter, psychological care and essential services in El Salvador.

Share our campaigns with your friends, tell them about Santa Marta and introduce us to communities that might support our work. You can start today.

Help us make this December count and keep Santa Marta's doors open in 2027.

GIVING TUESDAY

$5,000

PER MONTH

Our monthly goal to keep Santa Marta's lights on.

$375 raised monthly · 7.5%

$4,625 to go · 92.5%

Thanks to our monthly supporters, who have joined our new fundraising model, we've already secured $375 in recurring donations each month, reaching 7.5% of our $5,000 goal. We have $4,625 more in monthly support to raise, or 92.5% of the target. Help us reach $5,000 in monthly giving by the end of February 2027. Monthly gifts of $10, $25, $50 or any amount will help sustain shelter, psychological care and essential support in El Salvador.



TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIVING

$10 / $25 / $50

OR ANY AMOUNT MONTHLY

CLICK OR SCAN

4 Ways You Can Help Santa Marta

01 Give Monthly

Become a monthly supporter with a contribution of $10, $25, $50 or any amount. Help sustain our essential services.

02 Spread the Word

Share our Giving Tuesday and Christmas campaigns. Tell your friends about Santa Marta and the work we do.

03 Host a Gathering

Your home. Your friends. A conversation that matters. Invite people to learn about Santa Marta. We'll help you plan it.

04 Connect Us with Your Community

Help us organize events in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York and Boston by April 2027. Introduce us to local partners.

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